divisional/Zonal and Railway Board's level to ensure proper compliance of the instructions.

Express train between Hyderabad and Chennai via Nadikudi

3498. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by Railways to introduce one more express train between Hyderabad and Madras via Nadikudi;

(b) if so, details of this representation; and

(c) what steps will be taken by Railways to introduce this new train to meet public demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some representations have been received regarding introduction of a new train between Hyderabad and Chennai via Nadikudi/Extension of 7005/7006 Nagarjuna Express upto Chennai.

(c) Introduction of a new train between Hyderabad and Chennai via Nadikudi has been examined but not found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Over-night Express train between Visakhapatnam and Madras

3499. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has made any representation for an over-night express train between Visakhapatnam and Madras;

(b) whether any efforts have been made by the Railways to introduce an over-night train on this sector;

(c) if so, the reasons for not introducing an over-night train on this route;

(d) whether there is no over-night train presently operating on this route; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to meet this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 6003/6004 Chennai-Howarh Mail (daily) and 5 non-daily trains viz 6324 Howarh-Trivandrum Express (biweekly), 6310 Patna-Cochin Express (weekly), 5624 Guwahati-Cochin (weekly) 5626 Guwahati-Bangalore Express (biweekly) and 6322 Guwahati-Trivandrum Express (weekly) are providing an over-night service between Visakhapatnam and Chennai. It has been decided to introduce Howrah-Tiruchchirappalli Express (triweekly) in 1998-99 which will provide an over-night service between Chennai-Visakhapatnam in one direction.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Filling up of vacancies in Railways arising due to retirement

3500. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the vacancies fallen vacant due to retirement have not been filled up; and

(b) if so, as a consequence thereof the existing workers such as the running staff, are forced to work for un-limited hours of duty superseding relieving points and head quarters which causes safety hazards for these safety category workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and the vacancies occuring due to various reasons including retirement are filled up by recruitment from open market, and by promotion of serving employees etc. While a few vacancies are bound to exist in this continuous process at any given